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ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held in  
Room 2125, Temporary "IT" Building  
26th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

3 September 1953

PRESENT

25X1A9a Dr. Otto E. Guthe, CIA Chairman  
[REDACTED], CIA Vice Chairman  
Mr. Edward Doherty, State  
Mr. Howard Wiedemann, State  
Mr. J. Duncan Holmes, Army  
Cmdr. Ira M. King, Navy  
Col. William C. Baird, Air Force  
Mr. John W. Easton, JCS  
Dr. Edward Mullins, Defense  
Mr. Clarence Purvis, Agriculture  
Mr. Henry Caulfield, Interior  
Mr. Ralph Trisco, Foreign Operations Administration  
Dr. Louis Michael, Chairman Agriculture Subcommittee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Action: The minutes of the Economic Intelligence Committee meeting of 23 July 1953, (EIC-M-29) were approved.

CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECTS

2. Discussion: Dr. Guthe announced that the IAC had accepted the EIC Second Annual Progress Report without comment. In connection with this discussion, Dr. Guthe also announced that the Director of Central Intelligence had received a request from General Keyes, Director of Weapons System Evaluation Group, for a study of the capabilities of Soviet Bloc transportation in the event of an attack on Western Europe. The request suggested that this project might best be undertaken by the Economic Intelligence Committee.

3. Action: It was the sense of the meeting that the Director of Central Intelligence should ask WSEG to authorize appropriate working level personnel to meet with representatives of the EIC Transportation Subcommittee for the purpose of preparing a more detailed terms of reference. After this is completed and the scope of the project is clear, the DCI would submit the proposal to the IAC for approval.

~~SECRET~~

REVIEW OF EIC-P-3, "THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES WHERE AGRICULTURE UNREST  
REQUIRES URGENT ATTENTION TO LAND REFORM"

4. Discussion: In general, the EIC members agreed with Mr. Doherty, State, that this paper was really not an intelligence study since: (1) it did not contain sufficient facts and research analysis; (2) it was too estimative in character; (3) it contained numerous statements on political matters that are beyond the competence of the Subcommittee and the EIC; and (4) it contained numerous policy recommendations which should not be included in this kind of economic intelligence report.

5. Action: The EIC agreed not to accept this report for publication and further agreed that no additional work should be undertaken to revise the report unless the EIC receives a clear indication of a real need for such a study.

REVIEW OF EIC-R-5, "ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF RESOURCES OF SELECTED AREAS  
TO THE U.S. AND OTHER FREE WORLD COUNTRIES"

6. Action: This summary report was approved with the stipulation that certain minor changes to be presented by the Departments of State, Interior, and Defense would be incorporated. The original EIC contributions to the Office of National Estimates, CIA, will be used solely as unapproved working papers and will be kept in a central reference file in the EIC Secretariat.

REVIEW OF AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE SURVEY OF CRITICAL RESEARCH  
DEFICIENCIES

7. Action: The EIC agreed in general with the findings of the survey but suggested certain changes which are to be worked out in a revised draft by Dr. Michael, Mr. Wiedemann, and the EIC Secretariat. The revised survey is to be resubmitted to the Main Committee.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORR EXTERNAL RESEARCH PROJECT

8. Action: ORR, CIA, proposed to sponsor an external research project entitled: "Study on Metallurgical Plants in the USSR" and has asked for IAC agency comments on this proposal. Any suggestions should be communicated to the EIC Secretariat no later than 14 September.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

9. A list of new members was distributed for information of the Main Committee.

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[REDACTED]

Vice Chairman  
Economic Intelligence Committee